



MEMORANDUM

To: Nederland Board of Trustees

From: Sergeant Larry Johns

Date: 11/12/13

Re: Staff Report – Police Department

Since the resignation of Chief Adler, Nederland Police Department has been extremely active. Since that time period, NPD has responded to many issues in town that affect the quality of life. Some of what we have been busy with ranged from frequent interactions with a local person with Alzheimer's disease who walks away from home, to reported threats and an assault related, to an apparent two-pound marijuana deal gone bad.

The following are some of the crimes or incidents NPD has responded to over the past month. Many issues we have handled the best possible with the resources we have.

- Excessive truck and auto traffic due to flood damage in area communities.
- Five or more interactions with an Alzheimer's patient, returning them home. Some of these interactions have taken up to two hours to resolve.
- Juveniles at the local alternative school in possession of and using marijuana during school hours.
- A self-reported suicidal male who said he took bath salts and other drugs. He was ultimately taken to the hospital around 4 a.m. Emergency Medical Services volunteers responded as well.
- An assault or fictitious reporting of an alleged assault, where a knife was allegedly pulled on the other person. The investigation showed no evidence of an assault; the alleged suspect was not the person the victim said it was. However, the reporting party did have some type of injury to his hand that was inconsistent with punching someone. This incident involved EMS

personnel, Gilpin County Sheriff, Boulder County Sheriff and two Nederland Officers.

- Four reports of credit card or check fraud.
- A motor home abandoned by a Boulder-based transient person, which required Town assistance to impound. The man was summonsed.
- Four reported dog bites or dog fights.
- Transient people sleeping behind ACE Hardware, one wanted on a warrant.
- Fatal motorcycle accident involving a local resident, three miles north of town.
- Multiple civil complaints relating to residential leasing and subletting.

The Police Department continues to receive complaints from citizens regarding transient people sleeping in the woods south of the Big Springs subdivision. I have hiked the most frequented area but did not find anyone inside town limits. I encourage our citizens to relay their frustrations to the Forrest Service or Boulder County Sheriff's Office.

One case that caught the attention of the public recently involved a 19-year-old male accused of several counts of disorderly conduct. The investigation showed he was wanted on two warrants, one being a felony warrant. The male was seen the following day and ran from Officer Darragh O'Nuallain. He was ultimately captured after a foot chase. The suspect and O'Nuallain received injuries to their hands. Again, this brought out EMS, Boulder Sheriff and an extra NPD officer. Some residents have expressed concern about O'Nuallain's display of a Taser to encourage the suspect to stop fleeing. This tactic is not uncommon when a wanted suspect is running from officers.

NPD has attempted to shore up our currently short staff by bringing back Officer Jacob Smith in a part-time role. Our newest officer, Chuck Geiger, is continuing to move forward with training and gaining experience. I hope to have him ready as a solo Officer soon. Officer O'Nuallain gave notice and is moving back to his homeland of Ireland. His last day was November 8. We wish him well. Boulder County Sheriff's Officers are filling open shifts to ensure the town has adequate law enforcement coverage. I have been doing my best to use them sparingly. In short, all NPD Officers have stepped up to fill the holes.

I encourage town residents and employees to call the police when they see a problem. I have found it's easier to handle issues on the spot then follow up days later.

Feel free to stop by or contact me with any questions or concerns.

